of stone and other minerals in the catchments and watershed areas serving important water bodies in arid and semi-arid zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, what steps are being contemplated to prevent both legal and illegal mining in such areas where the water flow is disrupted as a result thereof obstructing the collection of this vital resource; and

(c) whether any survey has been carried out for identification of such zones where mining is to be prohibited completely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Filling up of vacant posts in various Government of India Presses

1733. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 847 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th July, 1991 and state:

(a) the names of the vacant posts which are not required in the interest of the production work; and names of the other vacant posts which are being filled up in each Press in the interest of the production work;

(b) whether Government propose to abolish those vacant posts which are not required in the interest of production work; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Vacancies are not being allowed to be filled up with a view to absorbing the staff that might be rendered surplus in the event of the implementation of the decision to close down four units. There is no proposal at present under consideration for abolition of any of these vacant posts. The names of the posts other than those mentioned in reply to Unstarred Question No. 847 for 26th July, 1991 which are being filled up are as under:—

Govt. of India Press, Minto Rd. (Photolitho Unit), New Delhi.

Key-Board Operator	Assistant Artist
Sr. Artist	Retoucher
Jr. Artist	Machine Assistant
Artist Retoucher	(Offset)
	Dark Room Assistant.

Government of India Press, Ring Road, New Delhi.

NIL

Government of India Press, Faridabad.

NIL

Govt. of India Press (Photolitho) Faridabad.

Jr. Artist

Assistant Artist Retoucher.

Besides, certain vacancies in the grade of Peon and Safaiwala have also been allowed to be filled up in the Govt. of India Press Faridabad and in the grade of Lower Division Clerks in the Govt. of India Press (Photolitho) Faridabad, although these are not directly connected with production but ancillary to it.

Inspection by Officials of Slaughter Houses

1734. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some officials working under the slaughter House, MCD Delhi inspect the markets and charge the fees from traders who have already slaughtered the animals without their notice;

(b) if so, whether the above said officials also prevent the sale of deceased/naturally dead animals already slaughtered without their notice by persuading such traders to destroy it in their presence voluntarily; and

(c) if so, what are the Designations, Pay Scales and minimum qualifications required for the appointment of the officials mentioned in (a) and (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) If animal slaughtered illegally is found fit for human consumption, the same is released after charging composition fee. If meat is found unfit for human consumption, the same is destroyed by the mobile squad in their presence.

(c) The designation of the officials is Assistant Veterinary Surgeon and their pay scale is Rs. 2000 to Rs. 3500. The minimum qualification for appointment of these officials is Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry.

Functioning of Zonal Office (WC) of CPWD

1735. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the item regarding improvement in the functioning of Zonal Offices (WC) of CPWD is pending in the Departmental Council (JCM);

(b) whether it is also a fact that *status quo* should be maintained on an item till the matter is pending in the National or Departmental Council (JCM);

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Ministry/Department has decided to keep the post of Zonal Officer (WC), New Delhi vacant and has issued orders that G.P.F. accounts of the workers should not be sent to Zonal Officer (WC) with effect from April, 1991; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Yes.

(c) and (d) No decision has been taken as such to keep the post of Zonal Officer (Workcharge) vacant. Decision to transfer the GPF accounts of the workcharged staff to their respective divisions from Zonal office at Delhi has been taken with a view to mitigate the hardships of the workers themselves. DGW, CPWD had appointed a Departmental Committee to go into the said question and it was on the recommendation of this Committee that the above decision was taken.

Development of inland fisheries

1736. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the various programmes for development of inland fisheries and achievements as a result thereof during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALIY RAMACHANDRAN): The major programme for development of inland fisheries are setting up to Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDAs), construction of national fish seed farms/hatcheries, setting up of pilot project to utilise organic waste (sewage) for fish culture and integrated brackish water fish farm development.

In the last three years 178 FFDAs have been sanctioned out of total 365 FFDAs approved so far for establishment in various States. The FFDAs have brought 0.97 lakh ha. of tanks and ponds under improved fish culture and trained 1.43 lakh fish farmers during the last three years, out of the total area of 2.83 lakh ha. covered and 3.31 lakh fish farmers trained, respectively by FFDAs so far since inception of the scheme. The average productivity from tanks and ponds during the last three years has increased from 1330 kg./ha./annum in 1987-88 to 1905 kg./ha./annum in 1990-91. Nine commercial fish seed farms/hatcheries have been completed during the last three years under the national programme for fish seed development.

One pilot project has been completed in the last three years out of six pilot projects sanctioned to utilise organic